

Agency 028 - DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

The Department of Veterans' Affairs was created by LB 187 and LB 240 of the 1947 Session of the Legislature. The Departments duties and organization are outlined in Article 3, chapter 80, Section 314-322, Article 4, Chapter 80, Section 401-412, Article 9, Chapter 80, Section 901-903, and Article 13, Chapter 12, Section 1301. The agency also has a complete set of Rules and Regulations on file with the Secretary of State.

VISION:

It is the vision of the Department of Veterans' Affairs that all Nebraska veterans and their dependents will have a quality of life that is dignified and acceptable in our society, reflective of the appreciation Nebraskans have for the freedoms won and preserved by veterans.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

The mission of the Department of Veterans' Affairs is to provide assistance to Nebraska veterans and their dependents in acquiring county, state, and federal benefits to which they are eligible by virtue of their service to this country.

GOALS:

Goals for the Department of Veterans' Affairs are reflective of the agencies vision, mission, and principles. These include all processes necessary for the policy decision to proceed with Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance to be accomplished to the agencies expectations, and continuous monitoring and improvement of all agency responsibilities and actions. Specific goals are stated in the supporting information.

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Financial Data

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Approp	FY12 Request	FY12 Recomm	FY13 Request	FY13 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	926,750	1,115,761	1,117,005	1,108,586	1,117,483	1,127,666
Cash Fund	0	0	0	8,000	0	6,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations Funding	926,750	1,115,761	1,117,005	1,116,586	1,117,483	1,133,666
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	926,750	1,115,761	1,117,005	1,108,586	1,117,483	1,127,666
Cash Fund	0	0	0	8,000	0	6,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	926,750	1,115,761	1,117,005	1,116,586	1,117,483	1,133,666

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Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

In order to conduct daily activities in an efficient manner, the Department of Veterans' Affairs is organized as follows: Also see the attached organization chart.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide complete administrative support to the Department.
2. Administer statutory assigned state veteran's benefits.
3. Maintain a Service Office that assists veterans and their dependants in applying for federal benefits.
4. Serve as the state's chief advocate for the veteran's position on all issues.
5. Maintain the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs is seeing major increases in the complexity of requests for all veteran benefits. Applicant's for state benefit requests require more thorough review due to lack of information and the need to request additional facts and supporting documentation. Applicant's for federal benefits no longer request claims for single disabilities but have multiple issues to bring before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

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Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Financial Data

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Approp	FY12 Request	FY12 Recomm	FY13 Request	FY13 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	834,005	854,207	855,474	853,226	855,951	866,463
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations Funding	834,005	854,207	855,474	853,226	855,951	866,463
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	834,005	854,207	855,474	853,226	855,951	866,463
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program	834,005	854,207	855,474	853,226	855,951	866,463

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Program 037 - VETERAN CEMETERY SYSTEM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Nebraska State Veterans' Cemetery at Alliance will be operated and maintained in a manner to meet or surpass national shrine standards as defined by the USDVA as, "a place of honor and memory that declares to the visitor or family member who views it that within its majestic setting each and every veteran may find a sense of serenity, of historic sacrifice and nobility of purpose. Each visitor should depart feeling that the grounds, the gravesites and the environs of the cemetery are a beautiful and awe-inspiring tribute to those who gave much to preserve our nation's freedom and way of life."

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide for the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System as set forth in State Statute 12-1301.
2. Operate and maintain the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance in Box Butte County and establish operational systems and standards in the State Veteran Cemetery System that meet or surpass National Shrine standards and other National Cemetery Administration regulations.
3. Develop future plans for the establishment of a State Veterans Cemetery in Hall County.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

We propose the requested issues will provide staffing to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery at Alliance in compliance with the policy decision to operate and maintain a cemetery. The State of Nebraska and the Department of Veterans' Affairs dedicated the first veterans cemetery established in the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery System. The establishment of the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System and construction of the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance, Box Butte County represented the first new program established by this agency in many years, the first program for this agency outside of the Lincoln area and the first "ground up" development for this agency and thus will requires continued coordination and oversight by all staff and affects all areas of the agency.

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Program 037 - VETERAN CEMETERY SYSTEM

Financial Data

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Approp	FY12 Request	FY12 Recomm	FY13 Request	FY13 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	92,746	261,554	261,531	255,360	261,532	261,203
Cash Fund	0	0	0	8,000	0	6,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations Funding	92,746	261,554	261,531	263,360	261,532	267,203
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	92,746	261,554	261,531	255,360	261,532	261,203
Cash Fund	0	0	0	8,000	0	6,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program	92,746	261,554	261,531	263,360	261,532	267,203